

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
ACDA-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /079 W
-----092040Z 088491 /44

R 091606Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4190
AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, WB
SUBJECT: BERLIN SPD RANK-AND - FILE INCREASINGLY CRITICAL OF
SCHUETZ

REF: USBERLIN 0675

1. UNHAPPINESS WITH LEADERSHIP OF GOVMAYOR KLAUS SCHUETZ
AMONG BERLIN SPD RANK-AND-FILE HAS BEEN EVIDENT FOR
MONTHS. UNTIL RECENTLY, HOWEVER, EXPRESSIONS OF SUCH
UNHAPPINESS WERE RELATIVELY MUTED, APART FROM ANONYMOUS
MEMORANDUM CIRCULATED NUMBER OF WEEKS AGO AND ATTRIBUTED
TO RIGHT-WING SOCIALISTS. IN PAST FEW DAYS, NUMBER OF
"BETRIEBSGRUPPEN" OF SPD HAVE BEEN ISSUING OPEN STATE-
MENTS CALLING FOR IMPROVEMENT IN PARTY'S IMAGE. (WITH
"ABTEILUNGEN", BETRIEBSGRUPPEN ARE SMALLEST ELEMENTS OF
BERLIN SPD; ABTEILUNGEN ARE ESSENTIALLY NEIGHBORHOOD
GROUPS WHILE BETRIEBSGRUPPEN ARE SPD UNITS AT LARGE
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BUSINESS OR ENTERPRISES.)

2. BETRIEBSGRUPPE OF BERLIN TRANSPORT COMPANY (BUS
AND SUBWAY SYSTEM), WHICH REPUTEDLY REPRESENTS
3,000 OF BERLIN'S ESTIMATED 30,000 REGISTERED SOCIAL
DEMOCRATS, IN OPEN LETTER TO SCHUETZ ON MARCH 8
CALLED FOR " THE NECESSARY POLITICAL AND PERSONNEL

CHANGES IN THE BERLIN SPD", WITHOUT WHICH " IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO REGAIN THE CONFIDENCE OF THE BERLIN WORKING POPULATION." SCHUETZ HAS AGREED TO SEE REPRESENTATIVES OF THIS GROUP BUT DATE FOR MEETING NOT YET FIXED.

3. SPD BUSINESS MANAGER, PETER WEISS, AN OUTSPOKEN RIGHT-WING SOCIALIST, ADMITTED TO TAGESSPIEGEL, ACCORDING TO MARCH 9 EDITION OF PAPER, THAT OPEN LETTER HAD ARTICULATED UNHAPPINESS WITHIN PARTY AND THAT " THE BERLIN SPD AT THE PRESENT TIME IS IN A DEFENSIVE POSTURE AND UNABLE TO CONCENTRATE ITS STRENGTH ON AN OFFENSIVE POLICY". HOWEVER, THERE ARE SIGNS THAT SCHUETZ MAY BE READY, AT LONG LAST, TO GO ON OFFENSIVE. HE IS SCHEDULED TO MEET BEFORE WILMERSDORF SPD " KREISDELGIERTENKONFERENZ" (PARTY CONGRESS AT DISTRICT LEVEL) ON MARCH 11. PETER WEISS IS CHAIRMAN OF THAT GROUP. ONE REASON FOR SCHUETZ' WILLINGNESS TO BEGIN DEFENDING HIMSELF AT GRASS ROOTS LEVEL MAY BE THAT ABTEILUNG 5 (GRUNEWALD) OF WILMERSDORF SPD ORGANIZATION HAS EXPRESSED INTENTION OF INTRODUCING MOTION CRITICAL OF BERLIN SPD LEADERSHIP.

4. IN TV APPEARANCE OF MARCH 8, FOLLOWING HIS RETURN FROM BONN CONFERENCE ON INNER-GERMAN POLICY, SCHUETZ WAS ASKED ABOUT RUMORS OF HIS BEING REPLACED BY WISCHNEWSKI. HE REITERATED HIS INTENTION OF CONTINUING ON AS MAYOR SO LONG AS HE HAD THE SUPPORT, AND SAID LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT FROM WHAT HE COULD NOW JUDGE THE RUMORS WERE SUBSIDING. AS TO WISCHNEWSKI, HIS CLOSE FRIEND, HE HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH HIM IN BONN. WISCHNEWSKI STATED HE HAD NOT SOLICITED THE JOB OF MAYOR IN BERLIN AND WAS NOT INTERESTED. SCHUETZ SAID WITH THIS THE MATTER WAS NOW SETTLED.

5. COMMENT. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER SCHUETZ CAN BEGIN, AT THIS LATE DATE, TO REBUILD HIS POSITION WITHIN BERLIN SPD RANK-AND-FILE--PARTICULARLY THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH RIGHT-WING. ALTHOUGH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF BERLIN SPD AND SPD CAUCUS LEADERS IN HOUSE OF REPS HAVE REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN SCHUETZ, THEIR POSITION COULD CHANGE IF SUFFICIENT ANTI-SCHUETZ PRESSURE BUILDS UP FROM LOWER LEVELS OF PARTY.
GEORGE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, MAYOR, POLITICAL SITUATION, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USBERL00700
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770081-0711
Format: TEL
From: USBERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770375/aaaacopo.tel
Line Count: 113
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 1ebed1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 USBERLIN 675
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3156175
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BERLIN SPD RANK-AND - FILE INCREASINGLY CRITICAL OF SCHUETZ
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, WB, (SCHUETZ, KLAUS)
To: STATE BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1ebed1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009